



## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### 2013 Raleigh Field Office Accomplishment Report



Serving Central and Eastern North Carolina

#### A message from the field

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is the principle federal agency protecting and sustaining our Nation's fish and wildlife resources. It is a big responsibility that we clearly cannot accomplish by ourselves or all at once. So, we rely heavily on our many partners in conservation and we focus our efforts on those actions and issues that are deemed to be the highest priority. In central and eastern North Carolina, the Raleigh Ecological Services Field Office (RFO) uses a 5-year [Strategic Plan](#) and Annual Work Plan to guide our conservation work. The following report summarizes our accomplishments for federal Fiscal Year 2013 (October 2012 through September 2013) and identifies some of the work that is part of the Annual Work Plan for FY – 2014.

In 2013 the Service faced greater than normal challenges related to budget and staffing constraints, and the RFO was no exception. Despite this, we were able to achieve many significant conservation milestones. While the full body of work of the RFO is discussed in greater detail in the body of this report the following actions are among the most noteworthy and are organized in terms of the five goals of our Field Office Strategic Plan.

#### **Goal 1. Conserving Federally Listed and at-risk species** (*rare species that are not yet federally listed as endangered or threatened*);

- We worked with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC), North Carolina State University (NCSU) and other partners to successfully grow the magnificent ramshorn snail in captivity. This snail may be extinct in the wild and successful captive propagation is a vital first step to its survival and restoration.
- We worked with the town of Troy, American Rivers, the Piedmont Conservation Council and other partners to remove [Lassiter Mill Dam](#) on the Uwharrie River and [Smitherman's dam](#) in the [Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin](#).  
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*St. Francis Satyr butterfly by Melissa McGaw © N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, Hoke County, May 2010*